

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-12

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1980

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PGOV, PFOR, CY, GR, TU

SUBJECT: CYPRUS: AMBASSADOR'S MEETING WITH MAKARIOS

REF: NICOSIA 1963

SUMMARY: ARCHBISHOP CLAIMS HE FAVORED PROPOSED "NATO
BASE"/ENOSIS TRADE. SAID GREEK GOVT MISHANDLED ISSUE.
NOTES GOVT HAS ASKED BRITISH FOR PAYMENT SBA RENT (SIC).
ANTICIPATES LITTLE PROGRESS IN TALKS. BELIEVES LESS SADI ABOUT
TREATIER THE BETTER.END SUMMARY

1. PRESIDENT MAKARIOS TOLD AMBASSADOR SEPT 19 HE FAVORED
PROPOSAL BROACHED IN TOUMBAS/CAGLAYANGIL DISCUSSION IN
1966 THAT WOULD HAVE TURNED OVER DHEKELIA INSTALLATION TO
TURKISH USE, PROVIDED IT WAS DESIGNATED AS NATO BASE.

2. AS A FURTHER FOOTNOTE TO THIS HISTORY ARCHBISHOP SAID
THE PROPOSITION WAS PURSUED AFTER THE OVERTHROW OF
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STEPHANOPOULOS GOVT. BY PRIME MINISTER KOLLIAS AND

TURKISH PRIME MINISTER DEMIRAL AT 1966 MEETINGS IN THRACE. IT WAS THERE THAT ULTIMATE REJECTION BY TURKEY CAME. KOLLIAS BLUNDERED IN PRESENTING MATTER, MAKARIOS ASSERTED, AS RESULT OF BAD ADVICE FROM HIS FOREIGN OFFICE, WHICH SHOULD HAVE ANTICIPATED TURKISH REJECTION BECAUSE BASE WOULD BE LESS THAN ITS SOVEREIGN PROPERTY. (NOTE: ARCHBISHOP THUS SEEMS TO BLAME ATHENS FOR FAILURE OF HIS OWN LINE AS HE DESCRIBES IT IN PARA 1.) AT ALL TIMES THE ATHENS PRICE WAS ENOSIS

3. DISCUSSING FURTHER THE PRESENT STATUS OF THE SBA'S, MAKARIOS DISPLAYED MILD ANNOYANCE THAT UK HAS PAID NO RENT (SIC) FOR ALMOST EIGHT YEARS. THE ARREARAGES AND OTHER CONTINUING COSTS HAVE BEEN RAISED WITH THE BRITISH, HE SAID, BUT WITHOUT EXTRACTING ANY PROMISE OF PAYMENT. (FROM ANOTHER SOURCE, WE UNDERSTAND CYPRUS GOVT HAS REQUESTED 64 MILLION CYPRUS POUNDS. IF THIS IS TRUE, MAKARIOS' ANNOYANCE CAN ONLY BE DESCRIBED AS PALE ALONGSIDE THAT FIGURE.)

4. SEPARATELY, THE ARCHBISHOP APPEARED RELAXED ABOUT PRESENT STATE OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. HE CITED KNOWN NEW AGRICULTURAL QUESTIONS INTRODUCED BY TURKISH SIDE AND SAID HE HAD SOME REASON TO EXPECT THEY WILL ATTEMPT TO RAISE ADDITIONAL ITEMS AFFECTING ANOTHER (UNSPECIFIED) SECTOR NEXT. IN ANY CASE, HE LOOKS FOR LITTLE IMPROVEMENT EITHER AS RESULT OF SESSIONS IN NICOSIA (POSTPONED FROM TOMORROW UNTIL OCT 2 AT EARLIEST) OR IN NEW YORK AMONG FOREIGN MINISTERS. NOTHING SIGNIFICANT WILL OCCUR, HE SAID, UNTIL THE POLITICAL SITUATIONS IN BOTH ANKARA AND ATHENS ARE SETTLED. INCIDENTALLY, HE ALLOWED THAT MARKEZINIS, AS EXPECTED NEW PRIME MINISTER, "WILL HAVE TO BECOME MORE RESPONSIBLE IN ATTITUDES TOWARD CYPRUS THAN HE WAS AS MEMBER OF OPPOSITION."

5. MOST INTERESTING OF THESE GENERAL SUBJECTS WERE ARCHBISHOP'S COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO AMBASSADOR'S QUESTIONS ON THE VALIDITY OF TREATIES OF ALLIANCE AND GUARANTEE. IN SHORT, HIS PRESENT AND CLEAR ATTITUDE IS--THE LESS SAID ABOUT THEM PUBLICLY THE BETTER. HE IS BUGGED MORE BY THE PRESENCE OF THE NATIONAL CONTINGENTS OF ATHENS AND ANKARA THAN--DESPITE WHAT THEY OWE--THE SBA'S OF BRITAIN.

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6. MEETING WAS ON INVITATION OF HIS BEATITUDE WHO SAID HE HAD LEARNED AMBASSADOR WAS RETURNING TO WASHINGTON. A GOOD PART OF CONVERSATION WAS DEVOTED TO HIS IMPRESSIONS OF EVENTS AND PERSONALITIES AT ALGIERS NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AND OTHER SUBJECTS WHICH WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.

7. COMMENT: ADDRESSEES WILL NOTE DISCREPANCIES IN

HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS OF SBA VS. ENOSIS TRADE--OFF
PROPOSAL (NICOSIA 1963). "NATO BASE" WAS NEVER ON--
AND MAKARIOS REPORTEDLY WAS UNWILLING TO CEDE ANY
PART OF CYPRUS TO GOT. WE HESITATE TO READ TOO MUCH
INTO ARCHBISHOP'S REMARKS ON TREATIES, BUT THEY MAY
PRESAGE LOWERING OF RHETORICAL LEVEL IN CONSIDERATION THIS
DELICATE SUBJECT.
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